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Front Page

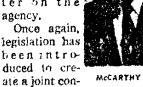
## Some "Facts" About CIA: Why We Know No More

By David Barnett (Nor in American Newspaper Alliance)

valshington, D. C. — Even time the Central Intellige he Agency gets caught

rule ining the wong way on a fureign road. sinne lawmakeis start a futile clamor for putting a congressional halier on the agency.

Once again, legislation has been intro-



gressional committee of House and Senate members to supervise the activities of the secret agency.

Two years ago, the issue was the fiasco at the Bay of Pigs, in Castro's Cuba.

This time it's Viet Nam. Says Senator Wayne Mouse (Dem., Ore.):

"Congress has permitted CIA to continue to exercise what appears, in fact, to amount to a police power in a democracy. As a member of the Foreign Relations Committee, I cannot tell the Senare-nor can any other member of the committee-what the facts are about CIA policy in South Viet Nam or anywhere else in the world."

## Backed Diem Since 1954

There are some "facts" about this policy, however, that are accepted in congressignal corridors.

The CIA has supported the rise to power of Ngo Dinh Diem, as the best anti-Communist available, since 1954.

The U.S. ambassador in Viet Nam at the time, Gen. J. Lawton Collins, recommended chief CIA agent in the area, however, disagreed, and persuaded the then chief of the agency, Allen W. Dulles.

CIA Chief Dulles persuaded his brother, Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, to back Diem.

The agency now pays some \$3 million a year to support

"sp. 'al forces" of South Viet-

The nain trouble, says Repregent, tive William Fitz Ryan (Dem. N. Y.), is that "the CIX as consistently oversteppe, its role as an intelligence gathering agency by engaging in policy formulation and execution."

## Committee Already

Ryan tried two years ago to get a joint committee set up. As so often happens, the furor over the abortive Cuban affair\ subsided and so did criticism of the CIA.

The standard and, so far, persuasive argument by the elder statesmen of Congress against a joint committee is that there already is a group that secretly oversees the CIA. It is made up of subcommittees of the Armed Services and Appropriations committees.

Senator Eugene McCarthy (Dem., Minn.), an early advocate of a joint committee, says that supervision is hardly worth mentioning. He recalled that, 10 years ago, Senator Leverett Saltonstall (Rep., Mass.), a member of the secret CIA group, conceded publicly that members got only skimpy information from the CIA-perhaps once or twice a year.

information.

"All of which means that there will be no real congressional supervision until it is required by law," he

Can Congress be persuaded

McCarthy is convinced it cannot, unless there is an administration in the White House that wants it to.

As now set up, McCarthy said, the CIA only tells what if wants to tell to the lawmakers it wants to get the

noted. to pass such a law?

with Approved Fors Release 2004/01/16: CIA-RDP75-00149R000500340013-9 Col. Edward G. Lansdale, the